

Appl. No. 09/560,785

Reply to Office action of May 13, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for purchasing a product comprising the steps of:

identifying a plurality of suppliers;

creating an information template for each of the plurality of suppliers wherein each of the information template specifies

~~specifying~~ a product having at least one ~~and each~~ component disposed within the product;

searching each of the information templates for the specified at least one ~~components~~ component disposed within ~~each the~~ product;

identifying at least one supplier from the plurality of suppliers by use of said search;

causing a design file of said product to be created by performing the steps of

transmitting at least one computerized design file associated with the at least one ~~each~~ component disposed within said product created from each of said identified suppliers from the plurality of suppliers to a purchaser, and

selectively using said at least one transmitted computerized design file associated with the at least one component disposed within said product to create a three dimensional prototype of said product; and

purchasing said at least one component disposed within the product ~~product~~ from said at least one identified supplier from the plurality of suppliers.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

Appl. No. 09/560,785

Reply to Office action of May 13, 2003

placing certain information on said information template of said identified supplier related to the cost of producing said product; and

reporting said certain information.

Claim 3 (previously amended): The method of Claim 2 further comprising the steps of:

storing said three dimensional prototype of said product within an associated information template database; and

evaluating said design file before purchasing said product.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

creating information relating to the operation of said product; and

placing said information upon said template of said identified supplier.

Claim 5 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein said product is selectively assembled within a vehicle.

Claim 6 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein said templates are searched over a global computer network.

Claim 7 (original): The method of Claim 6 wherein said global computer network comprises the internet.

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (previously amended): A method for purchasing a product comprising the steps of:

fixing attributes of said product having several interconnected components;

decomposing said product into several interconnected components;

identifying a plurality of suppliers;

Appl. No. 09/560,785

Reply to Office action f May 13, 2003

creating an information template having a dynamically configurable and searchable field wherein the dynamically configurable and searchable field is configured to specify which specifies a plurality of interrelationship attributes related to an the interrelationship of the several interconnected components of said product associated with for each of said plurality of suppliers and wherein the interrelationship attributes of said components further define the overall function of each of the several interconnected components, each of said information templates further containing information identifying the respective products and components provided by the supplier, a cost of producing each of said respectively provided products and components, and the time required to provide each of said respective products and components; and

searching said information templates in order to identify suppliers of said product and said several interconnected components.

Claim 14 (original): The method of Claim 13 further comprising the step of:

identifying at least one supplier of said product by use of said information templates.

Claim 15 (previously amended): The method of Claim 14 further comprising the step of:

identifying at least one supplier from a plurality of suppliers for each of said several interconnected components by use of said information templates.

Claim 16 (previously added): The method of Claim 13, wherein the step of creating the information template further comprises the step of:

specifying a plurality of attributes related to the interrelationship of the product to other products.

Appl No: 99-TK-555SS
Amdt. dated September 15, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 99-TK-555SS

request", however, it is functionally akin to an arbitration request in terms of the present invention. Corbalis lacks any teaching or suggestion for a module to generate a "transfer request" that request transfer of a current packet. The transfer request in Corbalis explicitly is related to the next frame, not a current packet as called for in claim 1.

In other words, Corbalis shows a communication module that can only generate one type of request to the arbiter, and only one request is pending before the arbiter at any given time. Although it is true that the arbiter can operate while the module is transmitting a cell frame, the frame that is being transmitted was arbitrated during a previous FRAME. This is very different than the invention of claim 1 in which the module initiates arbitration of a current packet and a later packet.

Claims 1-8 that depend from claim 1 are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Independent claim 9 calls for a functional module operable to generate both a transfer request and an arbitration request. These are both arbitration requests (i.e., communicated to an packet router), not actual packet transfer requests (i.e., communicated to a initiator/target module). As set out with respect to claim 1, nothing in the Corbalis et al. reference would show or suggest having two types of arbitration requests called for in claim 9. Accordingly, claim 9 is believed to be allowable.

Independent claim 10 calls for, among other things, a decision queue and claim 11 calls for a "queue for holding at least one routing decision". The Corbalis reference does not show or suggest using a decision queue. This mechanism does

Appl No: 99-TK-555SS
Amdt. dated September 15, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 99-TK-555SS

not appear to be associated with or connected to the arbiter 41. For at least these reasons, claims 10 and 11 are not shown or suggested by the relied on reference.

With respect to claim 11, Corbalis et al. do not suggest implementation in an integrated circuit. While this argument was raised in the prior response, the Final Office Action does not make a response. It is respectfully requested that any future Office communication point out where the Corbalis reference shows a queue.

Independent claim 12, like claim 1, calls for modules that generate both "transfer requests" as well as arbitration requests for later packet. Accordingly, claim 12 distinguishes over the relied on reference for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Further, claim 12 calls for a method for effecting routing decisions including effecting a transfer of a current packet based on an earlier routing control decision while making a routing control decision in relation to a later packet. This feature is not shown or suggested in the relied on reference, nor has the final office action responded to the arguments made in the response filed April 21, 2003. Accordingly, the reference cannot show or suggest claim 12 or claims 13-16 that depend from claim 12.

2. CONCLUSION

In view of all of the above claims 1-17 are believed to be allowable and the case in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. The references that were cited and not relied upon are believed to be no more pertinent than those references that were relied upon.

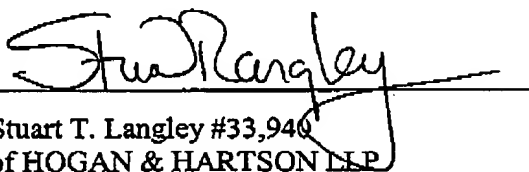
No fee is believed to be required by this response as determined on the accompanying transmittal letter. Should any other fee be required, please charge

Appl No: 99-TK-555SS
Amdt. dated September 15, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 99-TK-555SS

Deposit 50-1123. Should any extension of time be required please consider this a petition therefore and charge the required fee to Deposit Account 50-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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